What is claimed is:

1. A flexible pouch with a self-contained straw comprising:

a front panel and a back panel each having an upper edge, a lower edge opposite said upper edge, and side edges extending therebetween said upper and lower edges, wherein said front panel and said back panel are initially joined together at said side edges and said lower edge to form the pouch;

a straw disposed inside the pouch, wherein said straw is positioned at an angle between an upper corner of the pouch and an opposite lower corner;

a first seal applied to said upper corner of the pouch to form a pocket for holding an upper end of said straw; and

a second seal extending along said upper edge of the pouch to close the pouch.

2. A flexible pouch as set forth in claim 1 wherein said first seal has a generally inverted "U" shape.

3. A flexible pouch as set forth in claim 1, wherein the panel is formed from a laminate material.

4. A method of forming and filling a flexible pouch with a self-contained straw, said method comprising the steps of:

forming a panel having an upper edge, a lower edge opposite the upper edge, and side edges extending therebetween the upper and lower edge;

joining two panels by sealing together their side edges and lower edge to form the pouch;

opening the pouch;

inserting the straw into the pouch, wherein the straw is positioned at an angle between an upper corner of the pouch and an opposite lower corner;

applying a first seal to the upper corner of the pouch to form a pocket for holding an upper end of the straw;

filling the pouch with the product; and

applying a second seal extending along the unsealed portion of the upper edge of the pouch to close the pouch.

5. A method as set forth in claim 4 wherein said first seal has a generally inverted "U" shape.

6. A method as set forth in claim 4, wherein the panel is formed from a laminate material.

7. A method as set forth in claim 4 wherein said step of joining the lower and side edges of the pouch together includes the step of sealing the edges using a combination of heat and pressure.

8. A method as set forth in claim 4 wherein said step of separating the panels further includes the step of directing a stream of compressed gas into the pouch to forcibly separate the walls of the pouch.

9. A method as set forth in claim 4 further including the step of finishing the pouch by trimming the upper edge, side edges and lower edge of the pouch to a predetermined shape.

10. A method as set forth in claim 4 wherein said step of applying a second seal further includes the step of sealing the unsealed portion of the upper edges of the panels together using a combination of heat and pressure, to seal the pouch.

11. A method of forming and filling a flexible pouch with a self-contained straw, said method comprising the steps of:

forming a panel from a laminate material having an upper edge, a lower edge opposite the upper edge, and side edges extending therebetween the upper and lower edge;

joining two panels by sealing together their side edges and lower edge using a combination of heat and pressure to form the pouch;

opening the pouch;

inserting the straw into the pouch, wherein the straw is positioned at an angle between an upper corner of the pouch and an opposite lower corner;

applying a first seal to the upper corner of the pouch to form a pocket for holding an upper end of the straw, wherein the first seal has a generally inverted "U" shape;

filling the pouch with the product;

applying a second seal extending along the unsealed portion of the upper edge of the pouch to close the pouch; and

finishing the pouch by trimming the upper edge, side edges and lower edge of the pouch to a predetermined shape.

12. A method as set forth in claim 11 wherein said step of separating the panels further includes the step of directing a stream of compressed gas into the pouch to forcibly separate the walls of the pouch.